ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER.



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1876.

As election tickets have been printed with the intention of deceiving the Conservatives, every member of that party should thoroughly it spect the ticket he intends voting before depositing it in the ballot box to-morrow.

Let every Conservative, for this time at least, forget personal animosity, and vote the straigh ticket. If there be any real cause for differences in the party, it can be removed hereafter by party action.

To-Morrow .- "Once more unto the breach,

dear friends, once more!" though an old, is not an inappropriate battle cry for the hour which is upon us. Again and again have the · black cohorts of Radicalism surged upon us, and again and again have they been thrown back from our serried phalanx, broken and in confusion. We had fondly hoped that a final rout had been given them, and that never more would they dare to face us upon the field; but we had overlooked the fact that in the midst of our own host there were those to whom principles were as nothing in comparison with office, and whose self conceit and inordinate vanity were continually whispering that it were "better to rule in hell than serve in Heaven." It is against these men that, to morrow, we must fight, once more, the battle of constitutional liberty. It may seem bombastic to dignify by such a name, a mere municipal election. but when it is remembered that it is the pre liminary skirmish of the great presidential contest, our words will not appear ill chosen. Upon the result of that presidential contest depends our dearest rights. If we are successful in it, there will be no more sale of office, no more nepotism, or Cosarism. No more will the black man be the sole object of Congressional predilection, or civil rights bills strive to force him into our social assemblies, or his children into our schools; no more will the footprint of a hireling soldiery pollute our soil, or the gleam of bay onets overawe our legislatures; no more will partisan judges hurry off innocent men to distant prisons, or military tribunals "organized to convict," revel in blood; peace will spread her broad wings over our land, and every man, white or black, "will lie down under his own vine and fig tree with no one to make him afraid." It is as well that the mask has been thrown off now; for when the victorious hosts of Democracy gather to celebrate the regeneration of our land; when the banner of the constitution floats, once more, in triumph; and the glad shouts of rejoicing myriads, like the thunders of heaven, strike terror into the hearts of our would be oppressors; then no discordant notes will be waited upon the gale, but the men who desert as now, in the day of battle, will be driven back "with scorn and loathing into the company they have sought, and for which they are best suited, and their bypocritical professions of repentance and piteous cries for the crumbs of office, will be, alike, unheeded. Let, then; every true Conservative gird up his loins for the fight; let him rejoice that the men who, for years, have distracted our councils with their petty malice and self-seeking "patriotism," are no longer in our camp, but have gone over to the enemy power to remove an officer without charges. to disturb him as they have disturbed us; and let him give the day to his country, rousing his neighbor to the importance of the occasion and combatting the sophism by which the weak have been misled; and when the day shall have closed, victory will have perched upon our banners, and we shall have earned the right to be congratulated by our brothren | the Board.

Passengers who arrived at Havana yesterday from Vera Cruz report that for four days before the steamer sailed no railway train and no correspondence of any kind had been received from the Capital, all communications being interrupted. The rebellion seemed to be assuming alarming proportions. It was reported that the President of the Supreme Court had gone to the United States, and that President Lerdo was preparing for the sale of his property in case of disaster. These reports appear to be exaggerated, but the gravity of the situation in the southern portion of the country cannot be doubted.

throughout the land.

We are informed, and our knowledge of the high character of the gentlemen alluded, leads us to credit the information, that a majority of the respectable portion of the Radical party of the city, those who are Republicans from principle, and who have some interest in the honor and welfare of the community in which they reside, will not lend themselves to the present attempt of disappointed bolters from the Con- stitute of Mr. Harlow declaring Mr. Latham servative party to foist themselves into office by the aid of pegro votes.

At a public meeting in Richmond last Monday night, Mr. Cabell made a speech in which he said, alluding to the Independent move ment, which the Radicals, with the assistance of a few persons who have heretofore been half way Conservatives, have commenced in all the cities of the State, "he saw in this so called people's movement the Radical serpent in disguise, and he warned his hearers to beware of it. As a defeated candidate himself he appealed to them to be true to their party

passed the Naval Appropriation bill, after that Mr. Latham had been elected Pres dent of his mouth and throat were full. The opinion Jas. M. Stewart, 42; Robert Braddock, colstriking out the provisions for the reduction of the board. . the pay of naval officers, for the reorganization of the Marine Corps and the abolition of cer-

birthday commenced at Petersburg, in this for and it would be strange indeed if it requir-State, last night with an enthusiastic welcome meeting. Addresses by the Mayor, prominent Mr. Smoot detailed the action of the board on citizens and clergy, and responses by British settlers, were delivered. The banquet to-day will be on a magnificent scale. A congratulatory cable telegram was sent to Lord Derby for tribunal in the land that can settle this election presentation to Queen Victoria. British flags are flying, and there is general enthusiasm.

Most of the Conservatives placed upon the Council tickets by the Radicals of Petersburg have published cards appounding that their names were put there without their knowledge, and refusing to serve if elected.

There was a large attendance at the Centennial Exhibition yesterday. On Monday there were 12,396 paying visitors.

CITY COUNCIL.

A regular semi-monthly meeting of the City

Council was held last night. BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

This Board met at 8:20 o'clock. Mr. McKerzie offerred a resolution to abol sh the office of Harbor Master, and recited he circumstances under which the election of that officer had been dispensed with for sever

al years past. Mr. Moore understood from Capt. Lowe that the fees had been abolished, except where services were rendered.

Mr. McKenzie thought not. Every enconfarement should be given to the coal trade. which it was olaimed was jujured, by harbor fees, and he thought abolishing the office the best way to get rid of the trouble about fees. Mr. Moore asked if the Superintendent of

Police did not act in the absence of of any Harbor Master? Mr. McKer zie said, yes. He did not care to press the matter, but preferred action before

the officer was elected. After some further debate the bill was laid

Mr. Neale offerred a resolution to allow judges and clerks of election, on Thursday, five

dollars each. Mr. McKenzie thought three dollars enough. Mr. Dowoham favored the original resolu

tion, and recited the amount of work done as the primary election. Mr. Moore thought there could be plenty of

men gotten at three dollars, and the work could be done in one day. He moved to fix the pay at \$3. Lost—ayes, 2; noes, 4.
The pay was then fixed at \$4, and the reso-

lution adopted. The Board then, at 8:50 o'clock, adjourned.

COMMON COUNCIL. The interest in the meeting of the Common

Council last night continued unabated, the ses sion lasting until midnight and the outside of the bar and a portion of the floor being crowd-

ed by spectators. Mr. Beckham took the chair shortly after o'clock and called the meeting to order, and read a letter from D. L. Smoot saying that he would not be present, and asking a postponement of the resolution in regard to the Presi-

dency of the Board. The Chair said that other business might be Mr. Latham said that he did not agree, for

he was satisfied that the B ard could do no business until it had a president properly It was moved then to proceed with the dis-

cussion of the "pending resolution" declaring Mr. Latham the president. The Chair said that the Board could not proceed to discuss the resolution now. Mr. Smoot had the floor on that question, and debate

could not proceed unless Mr. Smoot was here. and he would have first to be sent for. Mr. Risheill moved that the resolution be

postponed until the next meeting. Mr. Latham said that he did not agree with the Chair, for in that case the Council would be at the mercy of Mr. Smoot. He had consulted with many gentleman both here and in Washington, and all, without exception, de clared that six vot s out of eleven would suffice to elect the President of the Board. This Board itself had so determined. In 1872 Mr. Shipp received eight votes for President and Mr. Hopkius 2, and Mr. Sbion was declared

The Chair said that courtesy required that the discussion should not proceed in the ab

sence of Mr. Smoot. Mr. Evans said that until this question was settled the Board could do nothing. He there fore offered the following:

Res lved, That the office of President be declared vacant. Mr. Risheill doubted if Council had the

Mr. Evans raad the latter portion of the 8th section of the charter, as follows: "All officers elected by the City Council may be removed from office at its pleasure. Each

board may remove all officers elected by such Mr. Beckham ruled that the charter refer-

red to officers ou side-such as the Clerk of the gas. It did not refer to the president of Mr. Hopkins said that section of the charter

was repealed. Mr. Broders defended his rulings at the former meeting, and said he did not see the use

Mr. Harlow saw no necessity for a postpone-The Chair (Mr. Beckham)-Thought that

courtesy would require that Mr. Smoot should be first heard. Mr. Latham opposed a postponement. Mr. Smith moved that Mr. Smoor be noti

fied that Council will now preceed to discuss the question. Mr. Evans said that Mr. Smoot had been notified already of this meeting by a messen ger. He saw no need of another notice. Mr. Smith's resolution was agreed to, and

Mr. Hopkins suzgested that Mr. Smith convey the notice to Mr. Smoot, as he could explain its purport. The Chair said he would write a note to Mr.

dispatched with it. In the meantime Mr. Latham discussed the was discussing the pending case, and he took his seat.

Smoot, which he did, and the messenger was

Mr. Smoot finally appeared and the resolu tion declaring Mr. Smoot elected with the sub elected were taken up.

Mr. Smoot had hoped that the time for this discussion would have been postponed, and as he was now busy in settling up his affeirs in the Circuit Court, he asked as a personal fivor that the matter be postponed and the Council pro ceed to other busines

Mr. Lutham said he emphatically declared that no President had been chosen. Mr. Evans again offered his resolution de

claring the office of President vacant. The chair (Mr. Beckham) rul d the resolution out of order. Mr. Evans appealed.

The ruling of the chair was sustained-ayes,

Mr. Hopkins withdrew his resolution offered at the last meeting, leaving only before

Mr. Smoot addressed the Council in support endorsed by the verdict of the jury, that death | The Chair said Mr. Lambdin was a man in of his view. It was admitted that nine votes resulted from epilepsy, brought on by the dan- whom he had "undaunted" confidence. would be required to adopt "any law, order or gerous practice of entering the water immeresolution." Now a vote for President could diarely after eating a meal.

The grand celebration of Queen Victoria's not be taken unless nine members voted thereed nine to vote that an election be gone into, and then that less than nine votes could elect. the night of the election. He contended that the work of election was finished two weeks ago, and no appeal was taken. It was now two late to make a change. "There is only one and that is the judiciary. If any one else has a claim greater than mine the courts can settle Mr. S. continued his argument at length occupying the attention for nearly an

Mr. Latham did not know which to sympathise with the most, the erring memory or the unstable position of Mr Smoot. He, too, discussed the question at length. He said: As to carrying to question to the courts, when there were only two more meetings, it was ab surd, especially coming from the gentleman. He'll plead his own case and I'll have to employ counsel.

Mr. Smoot, in reply, urged that, while at the opening of the Board, the charter alone being the rule, less than nine might elect a President, yet, after rule 23rd was adopted, it needed a majority of the whole number to chose. He spoke of the conduct of Mr. Latham in former days, when, "with the royal purple of the Mayoralty flowing down to his feet, claimed the power to prorogue the Council and remove the Councilmen from office.

Mr. Latham explained that the Constitution gave the Mayor the power to remove all officers, and Councilmen were officers, but he had told Mr. Smoot it was a power he (Mr. Latham) would not dare to exercise. Was that the bloody tyrant (a curious noise was then made outside the bar) that the gentleman had de

Mr. Smoot then introduced a resolution, as a substitute, declaring that D. L. Smoot had been chosen and qualified as President, and the Board was incompetent to decide upon his right to the office.

On this the vote stood yeas 6, nays 6, and the Chair declared it was rejected.

The question then recurred on Mr. Harlow's esolution declaring Mr. Luham to have been elected President on Tuesday night, and the vote stood yeas 5, pays 7. The Chair held the resolution lost, and that

the rejection of this resolution left Mr. Smoot as the declared President of the Board. Mr. Latham reintroduced the resolution of Mr. Hopkins, declaring Mr. Smoot to have

been elected President.
The Chairman decided that the rejection of the resolution of Mr. Harlow carried with it the declaration that Mr. Smoot was elected President.

Mr. Hopkins appealed. Mr. Evans moved to adjours. The Chair decided that pending an appeal

rom the decision of the Chair a motion to adourn was not in order. The voic being taken on the appeal of Mr.

Hopkins it stood ayes 7, noes 4. The vote was then taken on the resolution of Mr. Latham, declaring Mr. Smoot President,

and resulted yeas 8, nays 3. The Chair ruled that it required nine votes

o pass the resolution, and that the effect of he vote was to d clare Mr. Smoot not elected. Mr. Smoot appealed. The Chair was sustained-yeas 7, pays 5.

Mr. Hopkins announced his intention to offer a resolution requesting both contestants to re-

Mr. Latham said he was out of the question; the vote of the Council had decided his case. Mr. Smoot (to the Chair)-Just write my resignation and consider it signed. (Sensation.) S me quest on occurred at this point as to whether Mr. Latham had made any reservation of the rights claimed by him and Mr. Smoot declared that his withdrawal was based on that

of Mr. Latham. Mr. Latham-You have disposed of me and I shall not contest it, but I will not stultify my-

It was now 11 o'clock, but a new election was ordered. .

Mr. Harlow nominated Mr. Latham and Mr. Risheill nominated Mr. Smoot. Mr. Beckham was also placed in nomination. The Chair in advance ruled it required nine

votes to elect. Mr. Hopkins appealed from the decision of the Chair, but the Chair was sustained-Yeas,

Mr. Smoot withdrew, leaving Messrs. Latham and Beekham as the candidates. Mr. Beekham left the chair.

The Clerk teck the chair. Mr. Evans retired, saying, I have to go up the road on the train to-night, and it wont wait

The balloting proceeded: First ballot: Beekham, 7; Latham, 5. Second ballot: Beckham, 7; Latham, 5.

Third ballot: Bickham, 7; Latham, 4. Mr. Latham declined but was renominated by Mr. Harlow. Fourth ballot; Beckham, 8; Latham, 3.

Potih ballot: Beckham, 7; Latham, 3; John

Campbell, 1. [Laughter.] And pending the ballot, at midnight the Board adjourned until Monday evening next.

A DRUNKARD'S DRATH BY SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION .- An inhabitant at Fontenaysou-Bois, one of the most charming little suburbs of Paris, has recently departed this life under circumstances which merit the attention of everyboly, but more particularly of the scientific and medical world. The man in of all this trouble to be president for one question had been a confirmed drunkard, and imbibed, on an average, a quart and half of brandy per diem. Conscious of the degradation of his besetting vice, he kept aloof from his family, and at times shut himself up in his room for days together in order to pursue his devotion to Bacelius unmolested by the reproach or remonstrance of the infidel. He had frequently been forced to abandon the brandy bottle by the approach of delirium tremeas, but he was no sooner cared by the loctors than he returned to his favorite love. At leagth he was seized with an irresistible desire to destroy himself, which the medical sages call the "nostalgia" of alcohol. On Easter Sunday, he shut himself up again: but. remaining secluded longer than usual, the neighbors broke open his door. An overpow ering smell of spirits struck them on entering the room, where the remains of a charcoal fire were found, and on looking on the bed, there la the body of the man reduced to sinders! 23d rule of Council, but the Chair thought he The dectors say that spontaneous combustion must have taken place shortly after the

drunkard lay down to die. A WARNING TO BATHERS. -It has long been knews that it was is judicious for anyone to go noto the water to bathe just after eating a full meal, but it is not so wen known that the practice may result in death. This latter fact seems to have been demonstrated by the recent death in a bath in Bristol England, of a boy thirteen years old. He had never had a fit, and is believed to have been in perfect health. When found in the water the crown of his head was just above the surface, and he was standing in stooping position with his face just under the water. At the place where he was the water was only three teet four inches deep, while the b is height was four-feet nine inches. The temperature of the water was seventy-six decroes. The medical testimony disclosed the | Chas. Makins was nominated, but it was fact that the deceased had caten heartily be stated that he positively declined. given his food time to digest. He had vomit-The House of Representatives, yesterday, the board Mr. Harlow's resolution declaring et a large quantity of food, and when found

meetings for the nomination of members of the City Council, in all of the Wards last night, except the Fourth, in which those nominations had already been made.

FIRST WARD.

In this Ward Edward Evans presided and Thomas Dwyer was Secretary. Allen C. Harmon was nominated for the Board of Aldermen; Geo. C. Hewes, Thomas Dwyer, Wm. Chauncey and G. C. Thorpe, for the Common Council; John H. Thompson, for

Magistrate, and James Ennis for constable. The meeting then adjourned. SECOND WARD.

Larkin Patton presided and Henry Lewis

was Secretary. Lewis Stein was nominated for the Board Aldermen; F. L. Van Auken, John P. Rice, F. E. Corbett and J. S. Fowler for the Common Council; Wm. Wools, for Magistrate, and John R. Gray for constable.

A committee was appointed to attend the polls to-morrow, consisting of J. Piper, R. B. Clarke, Larkin Lightfoot, Levi Potter and J. Washington.

The meeting then adjourned.

THIRD WARD. A small crowd of various complexions assembled at the old Court House last night, and the dim lamps shed a ghostly light over the

dusky assemblage. J. McK. Ware, colored, chairman of the Ward Club, called the meeting to order and directed A. B. Crupper to read the call, which was for a people's meeting.

The Club officers were made the permanent fficers of the meeting, and it was declared in order to nominate a candidate for the Board of Aldermen.

R. P. W. Garnett nominated Robt. Portner. Some one enquired whether it would not be better to endorse Mr. Portner.

R. D. Beckley desired to know if Mr. Portner was not the Conservative nominee. Garnett stated that he had it from reliable sources that Mr. Portner would act with the people, "he will go with us, and act with us.

he is of us and for us." Beckley had nothing to say against Mr. Portper, he only urged that the best men be placed in nomination, but was inclined to think that there were other good mee in the Ward besides Mr. Portner, and therefore moved to table the

resolution endorsing him. A discussion arose on this subject between that Portner would act with the Independents. The latter desired to know if it was Mr. Portper's desire to play "Oh, Good Lord, oh, good desired to be pig to one and puppy to the

the meeting as a fire brand. This movement | into general circulation nearly a month, none of had been inaugurated to strike the party that | it has as yet found its way here save some few was in power and had so misused it. It was a scattering quarters and halves brought by those people's party, of and from the people. It was | who happened to get them in the city, and who intended to break down cliques and rings. He show them to eyes strangers to their bright wished to know if the city should be ruled by glitter and merry jingle, these many years. Of cliques or by the people?

A voice—"White alley him." Beckley was no fire brand; he was an Ameri-

right to express himself. Mr. Garnett here put in a word, as also did several.

requested "Joe Humphreys to come to order," in spite of which Beekley maintained his nothing was going on.

The Chair pressed for order, and some one

Some one desired to inform the meeting that Mr. Porter was nominated by the Conserva-The Chair said he wou'd state the object of

the ineeting, and proceeded to say: This meeting is supposed to be-C. O. Sipple, interrupting, "a people's meet-

The Chair desired Mr. Sipple to understand that he was capable of stating the object of the meeting, which he proceeded to do, and then

the motions before it. The vote to table the motion to endorse Mr. Portner was carried by a vote of 13 to 8.

Gernett-"Well, Beckley killed him. Beckley and Douglas both on the floor and both desired to make nominations.

The Chair recognized Douglass, who nomi nated John T. Armstrong. Sipple desired a committee of select cand

Beekley began to make a nominating speech. Sipple (oto voce)-Beekley, "Let's have a

committee. Beckley did not agree with Sipple, and pro needed to nominate James M. Stewart.

The Chair was overwhelmed with gratuitous Tellers were appointed and Armstrong re-

ceived 14 and Stewart 12. When Armstrong's name was called Gar nett urged the Chairvery emphatically to make it John T., and "not K. C., for God's suke!"

Armstrong was declared the nominee. A voice—"Yes nominated, but not gwin to be elected."

The Chair-"No indeed." R. D. Beckley, (colored,) Josiah Ford, John R. Lambdin, Michael Smith, Jas. Dugan, Jas.

M. Stewart and Robert W. Braddock, (colored,) were nominated for Council. Beckley declined, because he did not wish to weaken their ticket, which would be done by placing colored men on it. The Conservatives and Republicans had united to bring out a gold ticket for the general good. He had heard that white men were going to vote for the white Republicans on the ticket and scratch the col ored. He preferred to stay off rather than weaken the ticket. He believed the colored men intended to do their dury and perform their part of the contract, and he could not think any white man whose heart was in the work would be guilty of so mean a thing as trying to play so toul a gam; if they did intend that, they had better go back where they came from. . Think of it, if you go to Washington and get into a scrape, you will be hauled up by a colored policeman, but here we can't alle w ourselves to cast a vote for a colored policeman. The colored people were going into the arrangement with heart and soul and propose doing the fair thing. (A voice-That's so.) Let it be so with the wittes-but don't

strengthen it. Jones, (colored,) differed with Beckley. He thought the "Independents" were going to do their duty and the colored to scratch. He had heard many colored men say "they was gwine to take their pencil to de polls to scratch with. white voters.

Voice-I'se more fraid of you. James Dugan declined. Garnett wished to know if Mr. Stewart would

Beckley had not seen him, but was sure he

would. The Chair doubted it. Edward Quien and Radolph Thompson were nominated, but declined.

Mike Smith was nominated. The ballot was glosed and the vote stord; Smith, 29; Josiah Find, 31; John Limbdin, 32; was expressed to the medical testimony, and ored, 19.

> There was some confusion, and the Chair There was some confusion, and the Chair hours duration, that did great damage, is restaid, when he attended Sabbath schools years ported at Denver, Colorado.

Independent Radical Ward Meetings. before the war, the superintendent had said, if The Independent-Radical party held their all talked and none listened, no one would hear what was going on.

It was announced that J. M Stewart, John Lambdin, Josiah Ford, and Mike Smith were

nominated for Council. Walter L. Penn was then nominated by ac clamation for Magis rate.

The office of Constable was next in order. Harrison D ayton, colored, was nominated. Several others were nominated.

The Chair stated that as this officer had to give a bond of \$1,000, he hoped no one would allow his name to be used who was unable to furnish the bond and thus bring discredit upon the party; and he would entertain the nomina tion of no one who was unable to comply with this law.

A voice-Oh, there's no money in that." Several found it impossible to accept the of fice, having other and more important duties. Some one said there was no one in nomina-

Drayton said he had been nominated. The Chair dubiously informed him of the \$1,000 bond.

Drayton-Sar, I suppose had I been unable to have given the bond I would have informed

you of that fact Drayton was declared in nomination. C. O. Sipple was nominated.

The tellers were gone, others were appointed, and Drayton, colored, received the nomi nation by a vote of 25 to 14 for Sipple. Beckley here announced that he had seen Mr. Stewart, who had consented to run.

Letter from Rappahannock.

Adjourned.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette. WOODVILLE, RAPPAHANNOCK Co., VA., May 22, 1876.—Delegates from this county were appointed to the State Convention at our last County Court, no further instructions be ing given than the usual ones, the meeting not indicating any choice so far as the candidates to be nominated for the coming election. The on a match or by some fellow julling the trigdelegates are John S. Buckner, J. F. Strother, John T. Fletcher and Thos. B. Massic.

Several of our countymen who happened in Baltimore at the opening of the Centennial improved the opportunity by going on to Philadelphia, and were present at the inaugural ceremonies of that great occasion. Their reports of what they saw in the short time were interesting, and will no doubt lead others to re-Garnett and Beckley, the former contending newed efforts to pay a visit to this great and remarkable exposition in the history of our young republic, from our county. The great scarcity devil," and on being interrogated by Garnett as to his meaning, wished to know if Mr. Portner was playing a double game and whether he gladly avail themselves of this opportunity to see the combined wonders of the world.

Complaints grow worse and worse as to the Garnett wanted justice to rule if the heavens fell. He hoped B ckley had not come into strange to say, though silver has now been sent course it is hard to say, but we do not think we are far from correct in believing, that it will require a very large amount of silver to be put can citizen, a citizen of the Commonwealth of into circulation for even a few stray pieces to find their way out into the rural distric removed from the busy life of trade and the great centres of market, and if only a few do | depressed and prospects are discouraging. come, they most assuredly will be honored by their happy possessors in being kept as pocket pieces, and consequently will do the rural districts no good in the way of currency. We alright to the floor by continuing to speak as if ready hear of some who are collecting all the silver they can for the sole purpose of holding it, and should this spirit assume anything like general action, it will take but a short time to draw the change even from the cities. We have never seen a better prospect for the

farmers than that which greets the eye here on all sides. The wheat not only looks well, but really encouraging, and should nothing befuli before harvest, the crop will be the best we have had since the war. This is the case also in all the adjoining counties, the prospect in Page county being even better, owing, of course, in great part, to the superior nature of the land. The wheat on the Shenandoah river and the Hawk's Bill, in the latter county, is really a sight for the eye to rest upon, and the same charming reports come from the main valley, all agreeing that the prospect is all that could be wished. We have heard some vagurumors to the effect that the fly is making sad havor in Culpeper and some other neighborhoods, but this we hardly think can be general. or to be feared at this late stage of the crop. We have seen no evidence of it in Rappahan nock, but on the other hand much to encourage us in the belief that the present wheat crop will be the best since the war. All agree that the fertilized wheat is by far the best, and that the outlay this year will be a paying investmedt. There will be a large apple and fruit crop here people, doubtless, calmly consider the claims this year, despite the fears entertained on ac- and qualifications of the two respective can be count of the heavy frosts of a fortnight ago, the peaches alone having been injured to any serious extent, but even these have not all been | in years, by assidnous after tion to the discharge killed, and especially in the Blue Ridge, the crop, it is thought, will be a very fair one. Our farmers finished planting corn some days since. and some of them have already begun cultivating it. There is also more clover to be seen through the country than for some years, and under the kind influence of the late rains and hot sun the grass is beginning to grow. On Saturday night at 10 o'clock, we had

one of the severest thunder storms that has visited this district, the lightning being uousu ally severe and almost continuous, and follow ed by a perfect torrent of rain, which washed the newly planted fields a good deal. The lightning struck several times near our village,

but we hear of no injury. Young lambs are very plentiful in this county, and the best are selling at \$3 50 per head, though it is thought this price cannot long be

A new and strange sect has made its appear ance at New Market, the leaders being two ministers and their wives, who are also preachers, and who call themselves Seven Days Adventists. Unable, by reason of their un orthodoxy, to preach in the churches of the town, they have now provided themselves with a large tent, in which they are holding a series of meetings, and have already made some converts. One of their peculiarities is the keeping of Saturday instead of Sunday as their put me on the ticket. Nominate men who will holy day and day of rest, and the belief that a day of general ending here below will soon come. These preachers and their preacher wives hail from the cold climate and chilly shores of Michigan.

BAD ACCOUNTS FROM THE WHEAT.-We He was more afraid of the colored than of the regret very much to say that the reports from of his time and abor without adequate compen the wheat crop in this section of the State are very discomparing, from the attacks both of the fly and the rust-the latter having attacked the wheat in the counties bordering on the lower Rappahaonock. A few weeks ago the wheat was looking magnificently in all the surrounding country, and farmers were counting on large crops. A gentleman from Orange says that wheat fields there are badly out up. We hear that in King George the fly has also com- rightness in all the relations of life, and if elecm need its depredations, which is also true as fed he will discharge the duties of the to Spotsylvania, in certain sections. In Essex with that urbanity and courtesy to all which the rust has set in .- Fred g. Herald.

> The next annual Convention of the Kappa Alpha Fraternity will be held in Richmond, Va., on Thursday, June 29th, 1876.

A violent rain and snow storm of twenty-four

DISORDERLY MEETING, -At an Independent meeting in Riebmond, last Monday night the Radicals have Independents in every env in the State, now-during Mr. Popham's speech a man in the crowd said :

"Bah! What did you oppose Keiley for?" In an instant there was confusion on the right of the stand. Smith men and Carring. too men grappled with each other. The growd swayed to and fro for a moment. Then several policemen rushed in; then there was a struggle where the voice was first heard. The crowd grew more and more disturbed.

The scapping of a pistol was heard and the crowd divided. One part moved with great alacrity towards the sou hern door of the hall another part rushed towards the door leading into the station house. Those who were stated on the wind wails (monopolizing the small amount of fresh air available) seemed at first as if they had a mind to jump out; then he thinking themselves, took to their hoels and made at the doors. A great tide of masculine humanity surged against the door leading into the station house. When the policemen appeared there with three prisoners the arter could hardly force their way out. As for the distinguished gentlemen on the stand, paris possessed them, too. One, a dainty fig rewith a cane and a glossy silk hat, was grade excited. There was indeed cause for alirm. In a crowd of a thousand if one man firs another is apt to follow suit, and all who are armed, and can stop long enough, pop away, and much harm may be done.

After a few minutes calm was restrict in the hail. The ranks of the auditors were reformed, but they were thinner than before Some who retr a ed never returned to the fill to see how many were dead or wounded, or to

learn which side had won the victory.

The men arrested were Thomas Holloran. Henry Rhodes and Peter Murphy. By some it is doubted if they were the effenders. A question was raised as to whether the snapping heard was occasioned by a man stepping ger of a pistol. For all practical purposes it

was the latter. Mr. Popham concluded his speech in perce. Richmond Disputch.

General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.] BALTIMORE. May 23. - The Centennial service held on Sabbath, was an occasion of the profoundest interest. Dr. John Lanahan read the minutes of the Conference held inst one huadred years ago. Bishop Simpson made a tremendous speech, reviewing the history of

The disintegrationists, who were trying to break up the Virginia Conterence, and to parcel it out as the pasture ground for the West Virginia and Baltimore Conference, was defeated overwhelmingly, with scarcely a dissent

Hon. G. C. Round stood by Virginia like a man. Mr. Round is making a fine impression in the Conference. There is a strong feeling in favor of trans-

ferring Washington and the Winchester District to the Virginia Conference. This would make a grand Conference. So mote it be. K. TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

running on half time, and the business is much Lee formed at Taunton, Mass., last night, and

all the strawberries and other fruit there have been injured. Hiram Spinney, a squalid miser, died at Elliott Neck. Maine, to day. Among his effect were found \$10,00J.

Hon. J. A. Crawford, of Kingston, Georgia

was stung on the head by a bee this morning and died in two minutes. Burwell Newsome, colored, was hanged yeterday at Windsor, Bertie county, N. C., for outraging a white woman who worked with him

in a cotton field. Alvan C. Foster, who had been collecting money in Keen, N. H., y sterday, and received quite a sum, was found murdered and robbed this morning in the yard of a public school house.

ES CLERK OF THE CORPORATION COURT - The office of Clerk of the Corporation Court is in no sense a political office. It pertains to the Judicial Department of the State Govern-ment in contradistinction to the political department, and in former days so well was this prin ciple recognized that the Judges of the Circuit Courts appointed the Clerks of the various Courts over which they presided, and removed

them at their pleasure.

In this regard, the selection to be made on the 25th of May, 1876, will be in a great measure ure deprived of political significance, and whilst the other offices to be filled on that day, will probably be contested with all the ranco usual under such eireumstances, the office of Clerk should, at least, be an exception, and the dat s. Of them. Louis E. Payne is a young man, searcely 24 years of age, but though young of the duties of Clerk of the Court, has acquired, self-taught, a practical knowledge of all the minute details of the office, and is now more thoroughly efficient than many who have not improved either by age or experience, or who may have farmed out to others the important trust confiner to them, and then, at their teisure, engaged in other and more lucrative

Mr. Payne has claims upon the office, pos sessed by none, not even the present incum bent. From the fact that all the important causes, land books, will books, and papers be long ng to the County C'e k's ffice wer taken from that office and given to the present Clerk of the Corporation Court, thereby mercasing the revenues and emoluments of the one to the detriment and expense of the other, it would be but fair to place Mr. Payne in possession of the office, many of the concluments of which already legitimately belong to him, and for the safe keeping and custody of which records the bond given by Mr. Payne is alone responsible. This aggrand dement of the Clerk of the Corporation Court. through the means by which it was effected was an open perpetration of justice a dwom. and should in e a just rebuse at the polls. Ur der these circumstances, it is but natural that Mr. Payne should desire and claim the right it be elected to the office in order to regain the possession of the records for the loss or distru tion of which himself and bondsmen would be held liable. And no party consideration can intervene to withhold a simple act of justice Had Mr. Caton been nomigated no deute Mr. Payne would have declined becoming a co date, in order that Mr. Caton might receive the election to an office to which he spent so much sation, but he becoming custored into the emp ty form of a primary election, left a victim t the combination of a few men, who taking advantage of his honesty, sacrific d him to the

ery of party organization. Mr. Payne is frank, open and generous in disposition, and possesses in an emment degr those quaiffications of head and sentiments of heart that attract the admirers of talent, and of modesty in deportment and integrity and up ever denote the true gentleman.

DIED.

I row morning, at 10 o'clock.

On the evening of the 23d inst, CONSUELO, infant daughter of H. and Mary E. Application of H. and Mary E. aged 10 m onths. Ar Funeral's rvices will take place from the residence of her parents, to-mor-